



Arizona Medical Board

9545 East Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona 85258

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR PHYSICIAN HEALTH PROGRAM (PHP) SUBCOMMITTEE Held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 9545 E. Doubletree Ranch Road • Scottsdale, Arizona

Subcommittee Members

Paul M. Petelin Sr., M.D., Chair

Patricia R. J. Griffen

Andrea E. Ibáñez

Douglas D. Lee, M.D.

Dona Pardo, Ph.D., R.N.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following Subcommittee members participated telephonically: Paul M. Petelin Sr., M.D., Andrea E. Ibáñez, Douglas D. Lee, M.D., and Dona Pardo, Ph.D., R.N. The following Subcommittee member was absent: Patricia R. J. Griffen.

CALL TO PUBLIC

No one was present for call to public.

NON-TIME SPECIFIC ITEMS

Discussion Re: Current Monitored Aftercare Program (MAP) Issues

Dr. Petelin suggested the Subcommittee discuss the issues of how the MAP contractors function and who incurs the cost of the evaluations. Dr. Petelin stated that issues have been raised by MAP participants including complaints of the program being restrictive, rigorous, and demanding. Ms. Ibáñez suggested comparing comments from participants involved in similar programs, such as the Arizona Bar Association. Dr. Pardo mentioned that the Program's success rate is high and it has the reputation of being one of the best programs in the country.

Lisa Wynn, Executive Director, stated that Drs. David Greenberg and Michel Sucher, Addiction Medicine Consultants, have demonstrated that their program has a low relapse rate compared to other professional organization's programs. Ms. Wynn expressed concern regarding costs assessed to licensees participating in MAP. Ms. Wynn explained that some participants have suffered loss of employment and increased medical malpractice expenses during the course of their addiction. Ms. Wynn also explained that the Arizona Medical Board (AMB) has one of the few programs where one hundred percent of the cost is borne by the participant. In the past, the AMB's only expenditure for MAP was paying the monitoring costs and that cost still remains for participants who enrolled prior to January 2007. All monitoring is currently provided by Drs. Greenberg and Sucher and paid for by the participant.

Ms. Wynn informed the Committee that the Agency has been asked to submit a draft budget plan reducing the Agency's expenditures by 14% for the remainder of the fiscal year 2008-09. Ms. Wynn clarified that the Agency has not received notice to mandate or implement the reduction; however the future budget may affect any changes proposed by the Committee to MAP.

Dr. Lee suggested having monitoring costs broken down in the Board's next contract with Drs. Greenberg and Sucher. In addition, Dr. Lee requested Board staff create a mechanism to obtain feedback from the participants regarding their experience in MAP. Dr. Petelin suggested that this Committee address the issue of licensees undergoing Post-Graduate Training who cannot afford the cost of monitoring. Kathleen Muller, Physician Health Program, informed Committee members

that licensees with psychiatric impairment are monitored through the Board's Physician Health Program at no charge, which is separate from MAP.

Consideration of Possible Future Action Items

Dr. Pardo requested that Board staff provide the Committee with Drs. Greenberg and Sucher's monitoring success rates. Dr. Petelin suggested an inexpensive way to increase MAP's success rate by monitoring participants more spontaneously after a period of time. He also asked that the contractors provide an overview of what level current licensees are participating in MAP. Dr. Petelin stated the goal of the Board should be that of a success rate that is high, but not at such an enormous cost to the participant.

MOTION: Dr. Pardo moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:54 p.m.

SECONDED: Ms. Ibáñez

VOTE: 3-yay, 0-nay, 2-absent

MOTION PASSED.



The meeting adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Lisa S. Wynn, Executive Director